In re Patent Application of: FLICK
Serial No. 10/626,969
Filing Date: JULY 25, 2003

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. The claim amendments and patentability of the claims are discussed in greater detail below. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. The Claimed Invention

Amended independent Claim 1, for example, is directed to a vehicle security system for a vehicle of a type comprising a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and connected to a plurality of vehicle devices. The vehicle security system includes a vehicle security sensor interfacing with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle for generating a pre-warning signal or an alarm signal depending upon a sensed threat level. The vehicle security system further includes an alarm indicator, and a vehicle security controller interfacing with the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle for causing the alarm indicator to generate a pre-warning indication based upon the pre-warning signal, or for causing the alarm indicator to generate an alarm indication based upon the alarm signal. Independent Claims 12, 20, 25, 30, and 37 have been similarly amended.

II. The Claims Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected all of the independent claims as unpatentable over the Hwang '407 patent. The Hwang '407 patent discloses a prealarm sensor for a vehicle security system that can generate a pre-alerting signal, which is

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different than the normal alarm signal. The prealarm sensor is hardwire connected to a main control alarm circuit. The Examiner correctly notes that the communication line between the prealarm sensor and the main control alarm circuit <u>is not a data communications</u> bus.

In contrast, amended independent Claim 1, for example, recites a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and connected to a plurality of vehicle devices. The Hwang '407 patent fails to disclose such and indeed teaches away from a data communication bus extending throughout the vehicle. In addition, the security system of the Hwang '407 patent would require extensive modifications, nowhere suggested in the cited art, to permit use with a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and connected to a plurality of vehicle devices. Independent Claims 12, 20, 25, 30, and 37 have been amended similar to Claim 1.

Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 12, 20, 25, 30, and 37 are patentable. The dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features of the invention, are also patentable, and require no further discussion.

III. The Double Patenting Rejection Is Overcome

The Examiner rejected Claims 9-11 under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,392,534; 6,297,731; 6,275,147; 6,249,216; 6,243,004; 6,011,460; and 5,719,551, further in view of the Hwang '407 patent. Submitted herewith is a signed Terminal Disclaimer on behalf of the Assignee, Omega Patents,

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L.L.C. Accordingly, it is submitted that the double patenting rejection is overcome.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

In view of the amendments to the claims, the terminal disclaimer, and the arguments presented above, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has been forwarded via facsimile number 703-872-9306 to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 this Alexandria day of March, 2005.

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